

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SS-15 SSO-00 H-02 ACDA-07 AID-05

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O R 302000Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL BELIZE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5142

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELIZE 0676

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID MIL BH

SUBJECT: WARREN K. BASS

REF: BELIZE 0571 AND BELIZE 0565

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

1. WARREN K. BASS CALLED ON CONGEN JULY 29 TO SHOW US A COPY OF HIS PROPOSED CONTRACT WITH GOB. HE SAID HE HAD WORKED CLOSELY WITH CONGRESSMAN WILBER MILLS FOR 25 YEARS AND THAT MILLS WAS PLANNING TO VISIT BELIZE ON AUGUST 15. HE SAID MILLS WANTED TO HELP BELIZE'S DEVELOPMENT IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT REQUEST FROM GOB MINISTERS C.L.B. ROGERS AND FRED HUNTER.

2. BASS' PROPOSED CONTRACT WITH THE GOB IS FOR SERVICES AS AN AGENT TO SECURE FOR BELIZE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, A 200 BED HOSPITAL FROM US FOUNDATION SOURCES, AN AGRICULTURAL TRAINING SCHOOL WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE US, LARGE INCREASES IN MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE FROM USAID THROUGH THE WORLD BANK AND CDB, AND SURPLUS EQUIPMENT FROM THE USG FOR BELIZE'S SELF-DEFENSE FORCES, INCLUDING ARMS, AMMUNITION, RIOT CONTROL EQUIPMENT, AND 4 COASTAL PATROL BOATS.

3. ALTHOUGH BASS HINTS AT USG INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION
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IN DESCRIBING ALL THE ABOVE EFFORTS TO ASSIST BELIZE, THE

LAST ITEM IS THE MOST TROUBLESOME. BASS SPEAKS AS THOUGH THE USG HAS ALREADY AGREED TO PROVIDE THE DEFENSE EQUIPMENT AND THAT THE DONATION HAD ALREADY BEEN APPROVED BY QUOTE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ARMS CONTROL WILLIAM ROBINSON UNQUOTE.

4. USG, OF COURSE, SHOULD SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE IN BELIZE, PARTICULARLY ON SUCH A TOUCHY ISSUE AS ARMS AND EQUIPMENT FOR A BELIZEAN SELF-DEFENSE FORCE. WE WOULD LIKE TO INFORM GOB OFFICIALLY THAT USG IS NOT INVOLVED IN ANY WAY WITH PROVISION OF SUCH ARMS AND EQUIPMENT BUT WOULD NEED CLARIFICATION OF WHAT CONTACT, IF ANY, EITHER BASS OR MILLS HAS MADE WITH DEPARTMENT OR ACDA. END CONFIDENTIAL.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

5. AS WE WILL HAVE ONLY HALF THE NORMAL OFFICER STAFF IN MID-AUGUST, WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE NOTICE OF POTENTIAL CODEL.

6. BASS ASKED CONGEN TO PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO CONGRESSMAN MILLS: QUOTE UNABLE TO REACH JOE JACKSON BY TELEPHONE. PLEASE HAVE HIM CALL ME IN BELIZE. UNQUOTE. DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO PASS FOREGOING TO CONGRESSMAN MILLS.
PIERCE

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